

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



459344

SITE ASSESSMENT REPORT  
FOR  
HOFFMAN LANDFILL  
ROCKFALLS, WHITESIDE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
TDD: T05-9308-023  
PAN: EIL0809SAA

NOVEMBER 15, 1993

Prepared by: Raghavender Rao Nagam  
Reviewed by: John Skurda  
Approved by: Tom Zilly

Date: 11/15/1993  
Date: 11-15-93  
Date: 11/15/93

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
LIST OF FIGURES . . . . .	ii
LIST OF APPENDICES . . . . .	iii
1.0 INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
2.0 SITE BACKGROUND . . . . .	1
3.0 SITE ACTIVITIES . . . . .	1
4.0 DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL THREATS . . . . .	3
5.0 U.S. EPA ACTION . . . . .	5
6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS . . . . .	6

LIST OF FIGURES

<u>Figure</u>	<u>Page</u>
1.0 SITE LOCATION MAP . . . . .	2
2.0 SITE FEATURES MAP . . . . .	4

## LIST OF APPENDICES

<u>Appendix</u>	<u>Page</u>
A PHOTO DOCUMENTATION . . . . .	7
B U.S. EPA LETTER TO PRP'S . . . . .	8
C DISPOSAL LETTER FAX . . . . .	9
D PRP'S LETTER OF CORRECTIVE ACTIONS . . . . .	10

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION:**

The Ecology and Environment, Inc. (E & E) Technical Assistance Team (TAT) was tasked by the Emergency and Enforcement Response Branch (EERB) of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) on August 24, 1993, under Technical Direction Document T05-9308-023 to conduct a site assessment (SA) of Hoffman Landfill (HL) site and evaluate threats to human health and environment.

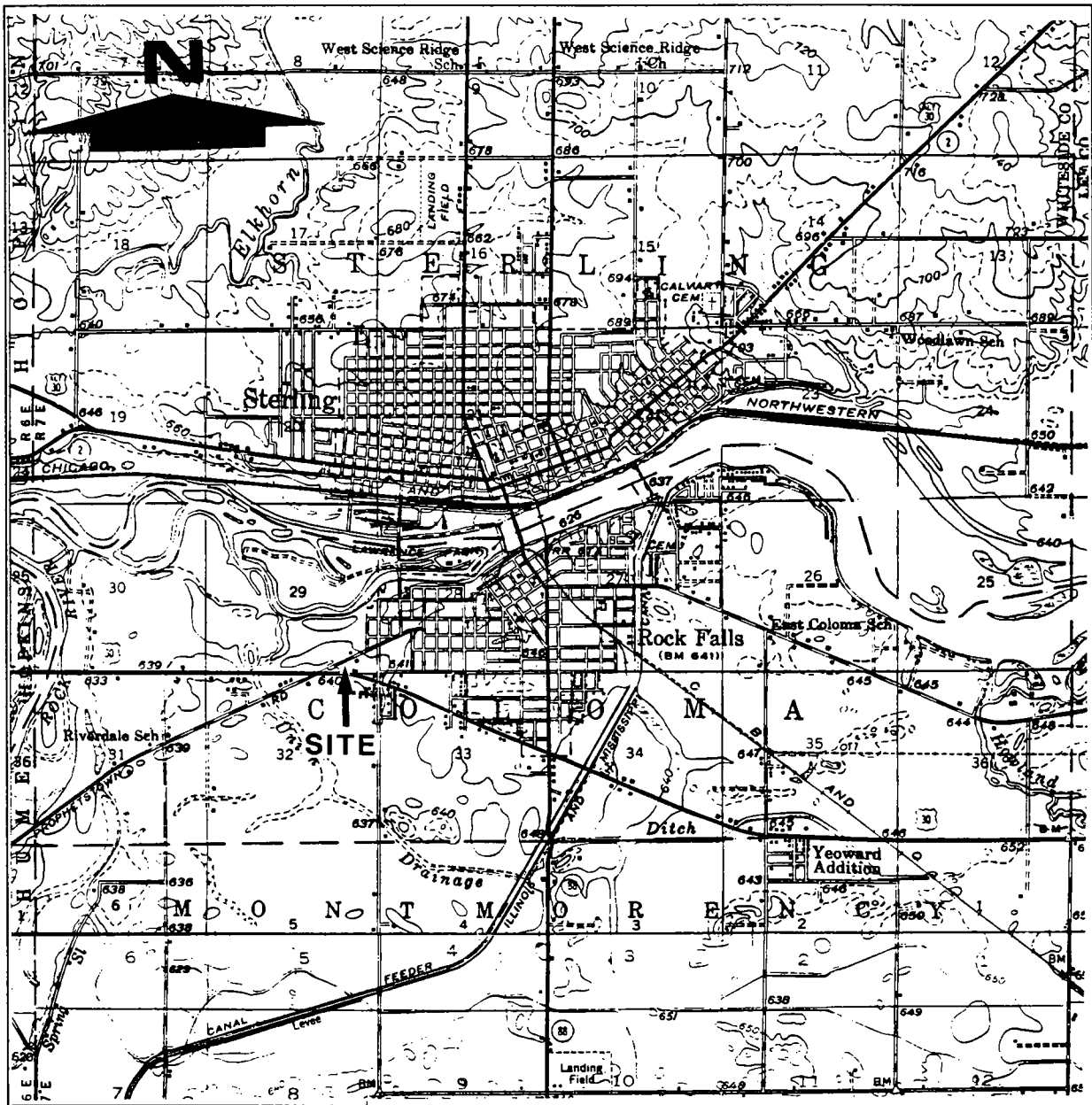
The HL site is located in Rock Falls, Whiteside County, Illinois and is legally described as within 1/4 SE of 1/4 SW of 1/4 SE of Section 29, T.21 N, R 7E (Figure 1 - Site Location Map).

## **2.0 SITE BACKGROUND:**

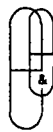
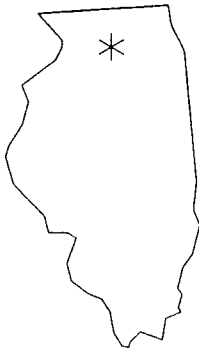
The site was referred to U.S. EPA by the ARCS subcontractor, who at the time of reporting, was conducting monitoring well sampling of Hoffman Landfill. The ARCS subcontractor noticed the tanks and drums near Advanced Asphalt Company located adjacent to the landfill and determined them to be in a position to pose an environmental threat.

## **3.0 SITE ACTIVITIES:**

TAT members R. Nagam, J. Sherrard, and Y. Anderson conducted the site assessment (SA) along with On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Paul Steadman on August 25, 1993. Henry Hoffman, the property owner of Hoffman Landfill was present on the site, and showed the location of drums and tanks near the eastern border of Hoffman Landfill. This location, which is an open area east of HL area is currently leased to Advanced Asphalt Company (AAC) by Henry Hoffman. AAC is an active facility dealing with the manufacture of Asphalt. Hoffman, upon OSCs request, had given the name of Bradley Bruins, as the contact person for AAC and also volunteered to inform Bruins of U.S. EPA's ongoing site assessment. After calibrating photo ionization detector (PID) and oxygen/explosimeter, the TAT and OSC started site reconnaissance. AAC is bordered on the north and west by Hoffman Landfill, on the south by a pond and agricultural land, and on the east by a dirt road leading to Anixter Road. Hoffman's property, which includes the landfill and AAC area, is fenced and access controlled by a gate on Anixter Road. During this site assessment, Bradley Bruins, Superintendent of AAC came and spoke with OSC Paul Steadman. Several 55-gallon metal drums were observed on AAC leased property. Most of these drums were either empty or contained material in small quantities. A total of seven (7) horizontal and two (2) vertical tanks were observed in this area. All the seven (7) horizontal tanks appeared to be non-operational and in a moderate to poor condition. The tank on



### Quadrangle Locations



**ecology and environment, inc.**  
**Technical Assistance Team**  
**Region V**

111 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois 60604

TITLE <b>Site Location Map</b>		FIGURE # <b>1</b>
SITE <b>Hoffman Landfill</b>		SCALE <b>1:62,500</b>
CITY <b>Rock Falls</b>	STATE <b>IL</b>	PAN <b>EIL0809SAA</b>
SOURCE U.S.G.S. Sterling and Walnut Topographic Quadrangles		DATE <b>1947 &amp; 1949</b>
		REVISED <b>N/A</b>

the northwest side of AAC (Tank#1) contained black asphalt-like material at its bottom. During this SA, TAT labelled all the twenty one (21) drums found on the location. Seven (7) of these drums contained small quantities of material while the rest of the fourteen (14) drums were observed to be empty. One of the seven drums had a label of hydraulic oil, while a second drum had a label of diesel oil. Bruins, per OSCs request, had agreed to reclaim these two drums. Bruins indicated that the two vertical tanks (mentioned previously) belonged to AAC. He had also informed the OSC that the horizontal tanks at this location were present from last 20 years. In close proximity to the two vertical tanks, twelve (12) black, 55-gallon metal drums and three (3) 30-gallon metal drums were present (Figure 2 - Site Features Map). These were identified by Bruins as belonging to AAC and provided the OSC with material safety data sheets (MSDS) of the drum contents. The MSDS information indicated that the drum material contained trichloroethane, perchloroethylene, and other solvents. PID reading on Tank#1 indicated 18 parts per million (ppm) of organic atmosphere. Another horizontal tank appeared empty but indicated a PID reading of 5 ppm.

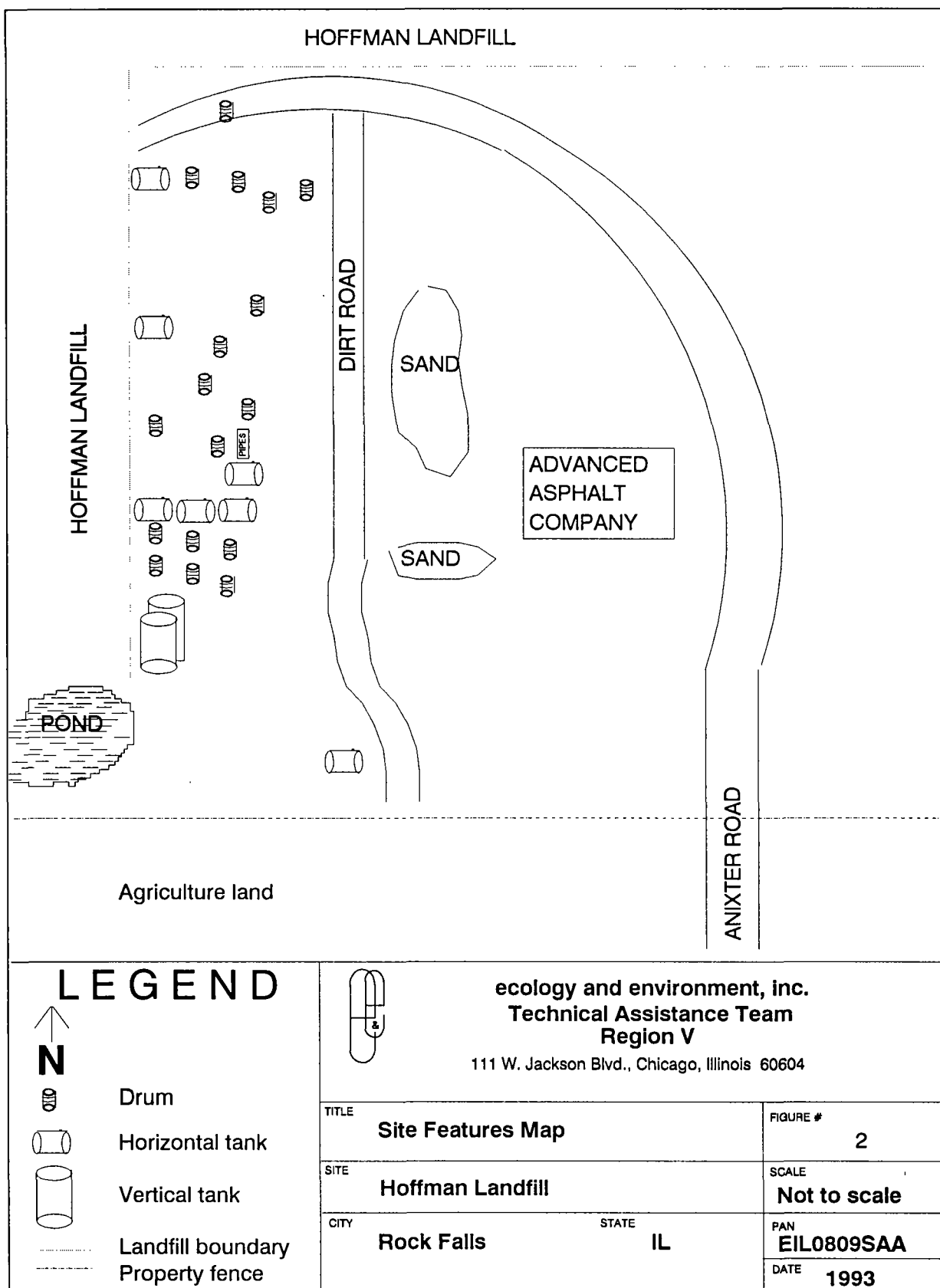
After this site reconnaissance, TAT made preparations for sampling the drums. Most of the seven drums identified earlier appeared to contain small quantities of rain water mixed with oily material. Due to the nature of the drum contents and their volume, no samples were taken during this SA. Tank#1 sample could not be collected because of the small amount of material at its bottom.

Based on drum and tank locations, and the similarity of drum and tank contents to AACs raw materials and product, OSC had requested Bruins to take actions to abate threats posed by the deteriorating tank and drums within ten (10) days. Bruins had indicated that they will empty Tank#1 and the seven drums and send them to a fuels blender.

During this SA, TAT photographed the features of the site, which are included in Appendix A. All potentially contaminated equipment was bagged and taken with TAT for proper disposal. No samples were collected during this site assessment. After these site activities, TAT demobilized from the site.

#### **4.0 DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL THREATS:**

MSDS for the tar binder indicates that it contains hazardous chemicals like trichloroethane, perchloroethylene, and other solvents. Tanks and drums containing tar binder and other material stored in an improper manner posed a potential threat to public health and the environment if such materials



were released to the ground and the environment.

#### 4.1 THREAT TO HUMAN HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT:

Conditions at Hoffman Landfill site that warranted an appropriate action as set forth in paragraph (b) (2) of section 300.415 of the National Contingency Plan (NCP) are:

**(i) Actual or potential exposure to nearby human populations, animals, or the food chain from hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants:**

Drums containing trichloroethane, perchloroethylene, and other hazardous solvents were stored improperly and in a manner that posed exposure threats to people working on the site.

**(ii) Weather conditions that may cause hazardous substances to migrate or be released.**

Some of the drums and tanks were in poor and deteriorating condition. These tanks and drums which were stored outside without any protection from inclement weather posed potential migration threats under severe weather conditions.

#### **5.0 U.S. EPA ACTION**

Paragraph (a) (2) of section 300.415 of the National Contingency Plan (NCP) as applicable to Hoffman Landfill is:

**"Where the responsible parties are known, an effort initially shall be made, to the extent practicable, to determine whether they can and will perform the necessary removal action promptly and properly"**

Based on drum and tank locations, and the similarity of drum and tank contents to AACs raw materials and product, OSC had verbally notified Bruins during the SA to abate threats posed by the deteriorating tank and drums within ten (10) days. Bruins had indicated that they will empty Tank#1 and the seven drums and send them to a fuels blender.

On August 27, 1993, OSC Steadman mailed letters to Bradley Bruins, Superintendent of AAC, and Henry Hoffman, property lessor to AAC, reiterating their agreement during the SA, to take appropriate steps within ten (10) days to ensure that the waste materials are removed from the site and properly disposed of (Appendix B). OSC in this letter had also suggested that the twelve (12) black 55-gallon "tar binder" drums of AAC be moved to a location where they will not create a serious hazard to the environment.

On September 30, 1993, OSC Steadman received a fax of the Safety Kleen's receipt sent by Bruins. This receipt indicated the pick-up of 1,000 gallons of used oil from AAC by Safety Kleen Corporation.

On October 19, 1993 OSC Steadman received a letter from Bruins of Advanced Asphalt Company, and three (3) photographs of the site's current conditions. The letter itemizes and attests to efforts made by the potential responsible party (PRP) to improve the sites appearance and conditions.

#### **6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Actions taken by Advanced Asphalt Company, pursuant to OSC Steadman's suggestion, have effectively mitigated potential threats due to hazardous chemicals present in drums and tanks.

**APPENDIX A PHOTO DOCUMENTATION**



Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD:T05-9308-023 PAN:EIL0809SAA Dir: W  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 0918 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: View of several 55-gallon metal drums found adjacent to Hoffman Landfill near Advanced Asphalt Company



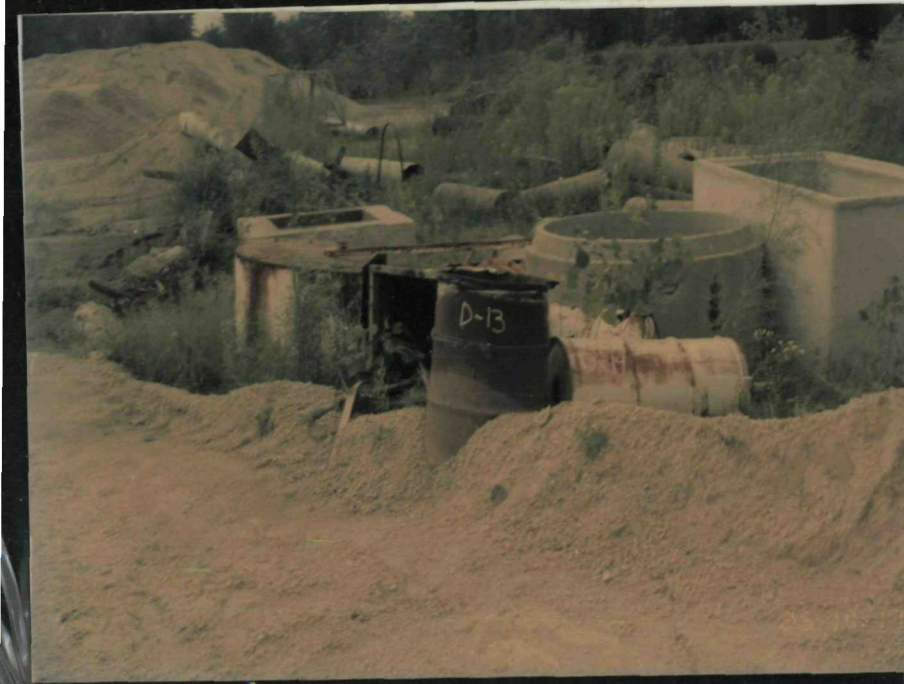
Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD:T05-9308-023 PAN:EIL0809SAA Dir: W  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 0919 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: View of 55-gallon drums and the metal tank



Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD:T05-9308-023 PAN:EIL0809SAA Dir: W  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 0920 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: Photo of tank T-1 surrounded by bushes. Tank T-1 had a small volume of black tar like material.



Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD:T05-9308-023 PAN:EIL0809SAA Dir: W  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 0922 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: View of two vertical metal tanks that are used Advanced Asphalt Company for the manufacture of Asphalt.



Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD:T05-9308-023 PAN:EIL0809SAA Dir: S  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 1117 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: View of some empty 55-gallon drums located near Advanced Asphalt Company.



Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD:T05-9308-023 PAN:EIL0809SAA Dir: S  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 1117 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: Photo of empty horizontal tanks and several pipes located near the two vertical tanks of Advanced Asphalt Co.



Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD:T05-9308-023 PAN:EIL0809SAA Dir: W  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 1118 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: Photo showing twelve (12) black 55-gallon metal drums that appeared to have asphalt in them.



Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD:T05-9308-023 PAN:EIL0809SAA Dir: W  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 1118 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: A closer view of four (4) horizontal tanks, several pipes, and tires located on the east side of Hoffman Landfill.



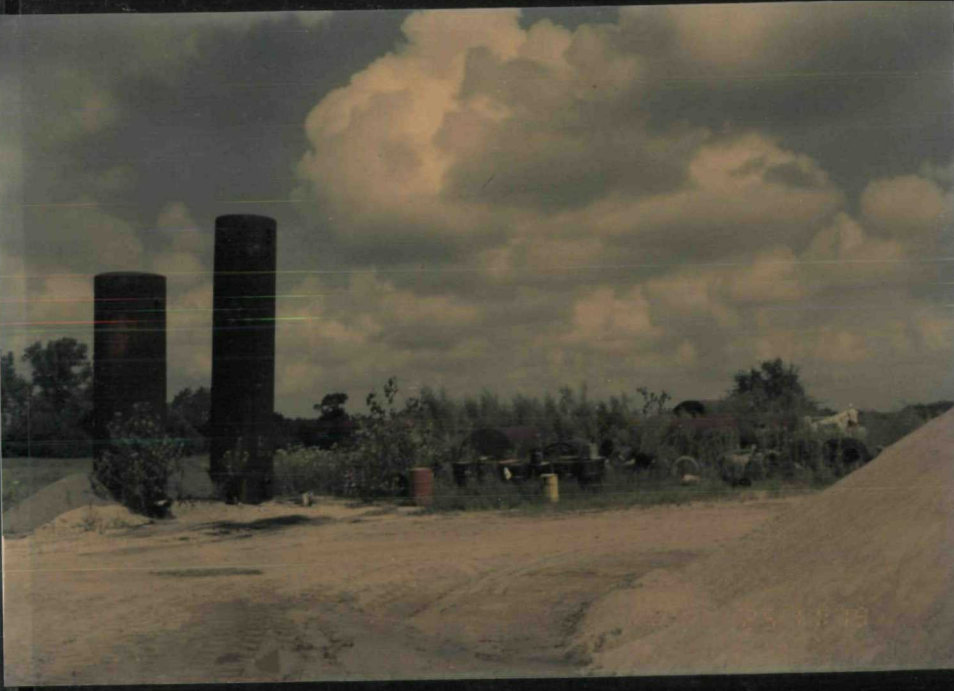
Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD: T05-9308-023 PAN: EIL0809SAA Dir: S  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 1118 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: Photo of some more empty 55-gallon drums located south of vertical tanks.



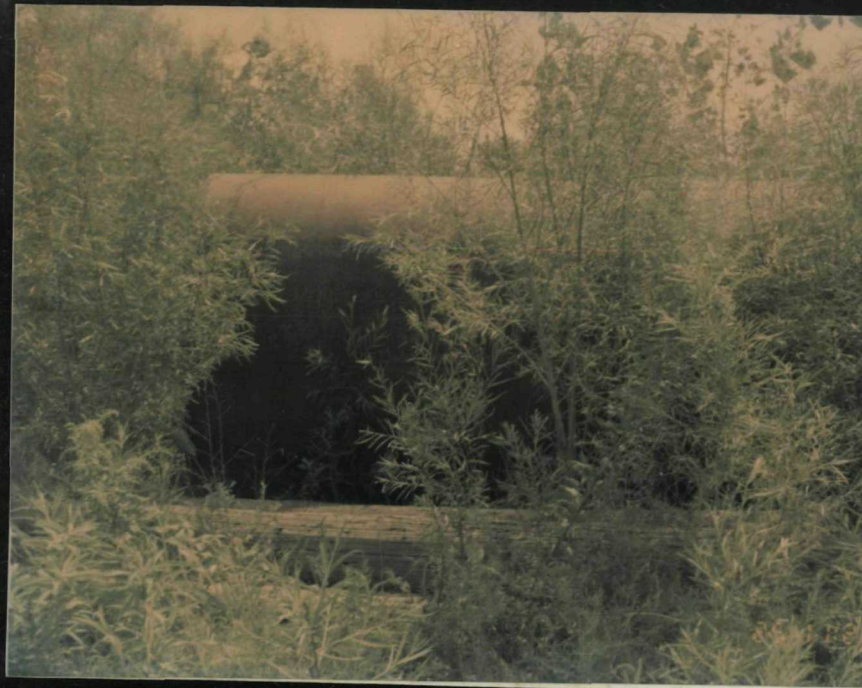
Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD: T05-9308-023 PAN: EIL0809SAA Dir: S  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 1119 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: View of two orange/yellow metal 55-gallon drums labelled RC-70, that belong to Advanced Asphalt Company.



Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD: T05-9308-023 PAN: EIL0809SAA Dir: SE  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 1119 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: Photo of an empty horizontal tank located in the bushes of Advanced Asphalt Company.



Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD: T05-9308-023 PAN: EIL0809SAA Dir: S  
 Date: 8/25/93 Time: 1119 Weather: Cloudy, 70°F Photo by: J. Sherrard  
 Comments: A perspective of tanks and drums located outside the eastern boundary of Hoffman Landfill.



Site: Hoffman Landfill TDD:T05-9308-023 PAN:EIL0809SAA Dir: E  
 Date:8/25/93 Time:1120 Weather:Cloudy, 70°F Photo by:J.Sherrard  
 Comments: View of an horizontal tank located in the bushes of  
 Advanced Asphalt Company premises.

(11)

79 12 N N N-3 2



Site:Hoffman Landfill TDD:T05-9308-023 PAN:EIL0809SAA Dir: S  
 Date:8/25/93 Time:1119 Weather:Cloudy, 70°F Photo by:J.Sherrard  
 Comments: Sand other material located on Advanced Asphalt  
 Company premises, that is used for asphalt manufacture.

(12)

79 12 N N N-3 2

APPENDIX B U.S. EPA LETTER TO PRP's



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

**AUG 27 1993**

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

**HSE-5J**

Mr. Brad Bruns, Superintendent  
Advanced Asphalt Company  
P.O. Box 234  
Princeton, Illinois 61356

**AND**

Mr. Henry Hoffman, Property Lessor  
709 Hoffman Drive  
Rock Falls, Illinois 61701

Dear Mr. Bruns and Mr. Hoffman:

RE: Disposition of Potentially Hazardous Waste Materials Stored at  
the Henry Hoffman Landfill/Associated Asphalt Company Property  
in Rock Falls, Whiteside County, Illinois

CERCLIS Site ID No.

During the conduct of this Agency's removal site assessment of the referenced property off Anixter Road in Rock Falls (legally described as within the SE 1/4 of Section 29, T21N, R78E) on Wednesday, August 25, 1993, it was determined that an accumulation of potentially hazardous substances containing trichloroethane, perchloroethylene and other solvents have been improperly stored on this site. Such improper storage can result in an imminent threat to the public health and the environment if such materials are released to the ground and surrounding area.

I met with both of you during this assessment and it was agreed that you would take appropriate steps within ten (10) days to ensure that these waste materials are removed from the site and properly disposed.

This refers especially to the contents of the tank marked as T-1, and the drums marked D-1, D-4, D-5, D-6, D-7, D-10 and D-11. As well, the off spec material referred to as "tar binder" in the 12 55-gallon capacity drums would be moved to a location where they will not create a serious hazard to the environment from a potential release or be confused with hazardous waste materials.

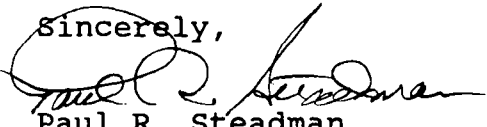
When the above steps have been taken, please notify this Agency in writing at the above address identifying the disposal facility (fuel recycler or fuel blender ?), the waste materials that were taken and the location.



Printed on Recycled Paper

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions, please call me at telephone number 312/353-7615.

Sincerely,



Paul R. Steadman,  
On-Scene Coordinator  
Emergency and Enforcement Response Branch

cc: Office of Regional Counsel - EPA Reg. V  
R.C. Karl, EERB Chief, Reg. V  
M.E. Gustafson, Response Section III Chief  
A. Altur, Illinois Site Assessments Section

**APPENDIX C   DISPOSAL LETTER FAX**

Box 234

PH: (815) 872-9911



August 30, 1993

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V, Emergency Response Branch  
77 W. Jackson Blvd. HSE-5J  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

ATTENTION: Mr. Paul R. Steadman, M.P.H.

Dear Paul,

You will find enclosed a copy of the receipt from Safety-Kleen Corp. for used oil picked up at our Rock Falls, Illinois asphalt plant facility.

Once again, I would like to thank you for your help in this matter.

Very truly yours,

ADVANCED ASPHALT CO.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brad Bruins".

Bradley J. Bruins

BJB:lf

encl.

ADVANCED ASPHALT

8156250604

P. 83



777 BIG TIMBER ROAD

ELGIN, ILLINOIS 60120

FED. ID NO. 39 - 6000019

PLACEMENT FORM

A 17798

GENERATOR/LOCATION

BILL TO (IF DIFFERENT FROM LOCATION)

ADVANCED ASPHALT		NAME	
AL AARWER #30		INFORMATION/ATTENTION LINE	
DOCK LAKE #12		DELIVERY ADDRESS	
071		CITY	
H/570686		STATE	
		ZIP	
		TAX CODE	
		MANIFEST NUMBER	

## SERVICE SIGN-UP

SALESMAN'S NO.	BUSINESS TYPE	TANK CAPACITY	TERRITORY	CUSTOMER TELEPHONE NO.	SALES TAX EXEMPTION NO.	CUSTOMER P.O. NUMBER
205	60	01	815-626-0336			
CHAIN TANK	SVC P/S	OD P/S	HANDLING CODE	CREDIT CODE	NEXT SVC	SERVICE TERM
					UNISCHD	5047-71
				BRANCH NO.	COMMENTS	

## SERVICE SECTION

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	GROSS QUANTITY	NET QUANTITY	UNIT OF MEASURE	PRICE	SERVICE CHARGE	TAX	UNIT TOTAL
100	USED OIL PICK UP	1000		CG	84.50	—	—	84.50
1050	OILY WATER DISPOSAL							
1060	INTERCEPTOR SERVICE							
10050	DEMURRAGE							
10051	PUMPING TIME							
10052	MILEAGE							
10053								
10054								
10055								
10056								
10057								
10058								
10059								
10060								
10061								
10062								
10063								
10064								
10065								
10066								
10067								
10068								
10069								
10070								
10071								
10072								
10073								
10074								
10075								
10076								
10077								
10078								
10079								
10080								
10081								
10082								
10083								
10084								
10085								
10086								
10087								
10088								
10089								
10090								
10091								
10092								
10093								
10094								
10095								
10096								
10097								
10098								
10099								
10100								
10101								
10102								
10103								
10104								
10105								
10106								
10107								
10108								
10109								
10110								
10111								
10112								
10113								
10114								
10115								
10116								
10117								
10118								
10119								
10120								
10121								
10122								
10123								
10124								
10125								
10126								
10127								
10128								
10129								
10130								
10131								
10132								
10133								
10134								
10135								
10136								
10137								
10138								
10139								
10140								
10141								
10142								
10143								
10144								
10145								
10146								
10147								
10148								
10149								
10150								
10151								
10152								
10153								
10154								
10155								
10156								
10157								
10158								
10159								
10160								
10161								
10162								
10163								
10164								
10165								
10166								
10167								
10168								
10169								
10170								
10171								
10172								
10173								
10174								
10175								
10176								
10177								
10178								
10179								
10180								
10181								
10182								
10183								
10184								
10185								
10186								
10187								
10188								
10189								
10190								
10191								
10192								
10193								
10194								
10195								
10196								
10197								
10198								
10199								
10200								
10201								
10202								
10203								
10204								
10205								
10206								
10207								
10208								
10209								
10210								
10211								
10212								
10213								
10214								
10215								
10216								
10217								
10218								
10219								
10220								
10221								
10222								
10223								
10224								
10225								
10226								
10227								
10228								
10229								
10230								
10231								
10232								
10233								
10234								
10235								
10236								
10237								
10238								
10239								
10240								
10241								
10242								
10243								
10244								
10245								
10246								
10247								
10248								
10249								
10250								
10251								
10252								
10253								
10254								
10255								
10256								
10257								
10258								
10259								
10260								
10261								
10262								
10263								
10264								
10265								
10266								
10267								
10268								
10269								
10270								
10271								
10272								
10273								
10274								
10275								
10276								
10277								
10278								
10279								
10280								
10281								
10282								
10283								
10284								
10285								
10286								
10287								
10288								
10289								
10290								
10291								
10292								
10293								
10294								
10295								
10296								
10297								
10298								
10299								
10300								
10301								
10302								
10303								
10304								
10305								
10306								
10307								
10308								
10309								
10310								
10311								

**APPENDIX D PRP'S LETTER OF CORRECTIVE ACTIONS**



October 19, 1993

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V, Emergency Response Branch  
77 W. Jackson Blvd. HSE-5J  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

ATTENTION: Mr. Paul R. Steadman, M.P.H.

Dear Paul,

Since your visit to our plant site in late August, we have taken the following precautions as per your advice.

1. All tanks and drums which contained fuel oil were pumped out by Safety Kleen Corp. of Elgin, Illinois.
2. All tanks and drums with the exception of one tank have been removed from our property and sold as scrap.
3. The drums containing an asphalt anti-strip additive have been grouped together and covered with a tarp. (See enclosed pictures.)

Should you need any further information, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

ADVANCED ASPHALT CO.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bradley J. Bruins".

Bradley J. Bruins

BJB:lf